

## The Tramp Has a Real Value

By Jack London



F the tramp were suddenly to pass away from the United States, widespread misery for many families would follow. The tramp enables thousands of men to earn honest livings, educate their children and bring them up God-fearing and industrious. I know.

At one time my father was a constable and hunted tramps for a living. The community paid him so much per head for all the tramps he could catch, and also, I believe, he got mileage fees. Ways and means were always a pressing problem in our household, and the amount of meat on the table, the new pair of shoes, the day's outing or the textbook for school was dependent upon my father's luck in the chase. Well I remember the suppressed eagerness and the suspense with which I waited each morning what the results of the past night's toll had been; how many tramps he had gathered in and what the chances were of convicting them.

But it's all in the game. The hobo defies society and society's watchdogs make a living out of him. Some hoboes like to be caught by the watchdogs—especially in winter time. Of course, such hoboes select communities where the jails are "good," where no work is performed and the food is substantial. Also there have been and most probably still are constables who divide their fees with the hoboes they arrest. Such a constable does not have to hunt. He whistles and the game comes right up to his hand.

It is surprising the amount of money that is made out of stone-broke tramps. All through the South are convict camps and plantations where the time of convicted hoboes is bought by the farmers and where hoboes simply have to work. Then there are places like the quarries of Rutland, Vt., where the hobo is exploited, the unearned energy in his body, which he has accumulated by slamming gates, being extracted for the benefit of that particular community.

Tramps pass the word along, and I first heard of those quarries when I was in Indiana. By the time I got into New Hampshire I was pretty well keyed up over those quarries; and I fought shy of railroad cops, "bulls" and constables as I never had before.—Chicago Tribune.

## Husbands Slandered

They Are Not to Blame for Wives in Asylums and Graves

By Gabrielle Stewart Mullner

I AM extremely sorry to notice the tenor of the reports from the International Council of Women in Toronto. I do not think that the report of the speeches is representative of the thought of the majority of the women in attendance or represented by delegates. The statement made, as reported, by Mrs. Symes Thompson, that half the women in asylums and graves were there because of their husbands, certainly gives a wrong impression of the attitude of the International Council of Women toward life. Of course the vast majority of women are happily married, and devotedly attached to their husbands, and content with the lot in which they find themselves, no matter whether it be rich or poor.

Women are going to their graves from bad health, because the entire civilization needs to learn better the laws of life. It is not men alone, but all persons, who are responsible for conditions under which women live. They go to asylums not because of their husbands, but because they themselves do not know how to attune themselves to life. They must learn not to be self-centred, but to make of their lives a mosaic, and have many interests, so that they can be well balanced, and keep an interest in life even if one interest proves disappointing. But are there no men in asylums, or do the death notices contain no names of men?

There is vice, there are bad habits, there is inattention, and there is cruelty, against which women have to battle. But we are all human beings, only a few of us are angels, and plenty of us are more or less whitewashed devils. But it takes two to make a divorce action, and three to carry a case through New York courts, so I for one resent the insinuation that all women are suffering unhappiness because some of them do.

Let those of us who are happily married come to the rescue of the husbands who are proving themselves nature's noblest.

## Hard for Youth to Meet Nice Girls

By Dr. N. I. Gillman of New York

DESIRABLE society is inaccessible to a good many worthy young men. What chance does the thrifty young man stand with the modern young woman out for a good time? Her ideal is the sporty spendthrift who lavishes his hard-earned dollars upon her caprices. She has no earthly use for the economical, home-loving species. She scoffs at him and appends such epithets as "stingy miser" to his name.

A good many women do not use discretion in the choice of a life-companion. Mere appearances are usually victorious. Physical beauty, stylish apparel, distinguished deportment, a knowledge of the arts of flattery and dancing are the only keys that will open society's door. The plain, sincere, home-loving young man usually lacks these keys.

Then too, with but few exceptions, the modern woman is unfit to assume domestic and maternal responsibilities. Too much time is wasted in studying the art of external adornment. Of what use is a smattering of music or French to the practical young man who prefers a digestible meal?

Give us some more girls with a knowledge of domestic economy in lieu of lawn tennis and basket-ball, and "E. D." will have no cause for bemoaning the waning of marriages.

## ... Gas as a Motor...

By Joe Mitchell Chapple

ACCORDING to expert government reports on fuel, the gas engine is capable of generating from two and a half to three times as much power from a given amount of coal as the steam engine. It economizes in another way also by making it possible to obtain power with a low-grade coal valueless under steam boilers. Fuel with so high a percentage of impurity that it could not hitherto be used in factories can now be made to generate sufficient power, by means of gas engine, to do the same work that otherwise would require double the quantity of high-grade coal. The lignite coal of North Dakota has thus been made to give out as much gas engine force as the best West Virginia and bituminous coal used under steam boilers.

Some sort of coal is indigenous to almost all parts of America, but the fact that in the average steam engine only five percent of the coal energy is transformed into actual working power made low-grade coal of little commercial value until the perfection of the gas engine, which increases the efficiency of fuel by almost twelve percent. Time was when the big mills had to be sited beside some swift running stream to secure water power. Later on, when the power of the gas engine, it is a matter of little importance—so far as power is concerned—where a plant is built.—National Magazine.

## SNAPPY AND BRIEF

Items Gathered and Told While You Hold Your Breath.

### SOME EVERY DAY HAPPENINGS

Lively and Crisp as They Are Garnered From the Fields of Action at Home and Abroad.

Casper Whitney in a magazine article recently accused the midshipmen club at Annapolis, of deceit and lack of sportsmanship in the national rifle matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. They are stung and announce that they will sue in the courts, not for the sake of money, but as the only means of public vindication.

Key West, Fla., suffered the worst storm Monday within her history, the wind blowing 100 miles an hour.

The Lenoir, N. C., News says it is reliably informed that John S. Green of Caldwell county, has received a check for \$1,000 as first premium on apples awarded by the International Apple Show at Spokane, Washington, last winter.

The mansion of Former Governor William Sprague at Narragansett, R. I., was destroyed by fire Monday morning. Many art treasures were lost. The total loss will be \$600,000.

The Chicago police have furnished in advance to police of cities in the route of President Taft the pictures of noted pickpockets and it is hoped that most of the band following the President will be earning a living when he gets back to Washington.

Ion Hammer, director of the Swedish Export Association, was a victim of a Socialist bomb last Sunday. It was sent by mail and as he was taking off wrappers it exploded, tearing off his thumb and forefinger and gashing his face somewhat. His injuries are not fatal.

An autoist going at a good speed struck a baby carriage in New York Sunday, knocking baby and carriage 20 feet but the baby escaped unhurt.

According to statistics from Washington, the Indians in the United States are not being exterminated but on the contrary are increasing at a normal rate.

The Law and Order League of Pensacola, Fla., caused the Sunday law of fifty years standing to be enforced last Sunday when not a cigar could be bought. Those who neglected to lay in their meat and bread for Sunday had to take meals at the restaurants.

Prof. D. G. Caldwell of the chair of Latin and French at Erskine College, Due West, S. C., died Sunday afternoon after suffering two weeks from a stroke of apoplexy. Prof. Caldwell had won the appellation of "The Friend of the Boys." South Carolina greatly mourns him.

Robbers surprised, bound and gagged the chief clerk and assistant in the Seattle Express office Tuesday morning and robbed the office getting considerable booty.

At Waters Creek near McNeal, Texas, Wednesday an engine and two cars plunged into a burning bridge, killing one and injuring eight persons.

Prof. L. L. Dyke, head of the department of natural history in the University of Kansas who made several trips north says: "Commander Peary's statement just published, to my mind, is absolutely incredible. It is based on the testimony of ignorant Eskimos, who were incapable of understanding a country to which they had never been before well enough to outline such a map as that published and credited by Mr. Peary to their explanation. Only intelligent white men with instruments could make their way to such a country and be able to report in detail upon it a year after the trip was made."

Ulysses Wise, near Lincoln, N. C., in a fit of insanity, Wednesday night, frightened his family from home. His wife's father answered a call and came to the rescue whereupon Wise cut his head off with an axe, went into the house, set it on fire and burned to a crisp with the house.

Killing frosts are reported on the 13th as far south as Alabama and snow as far south as Maryland.

Dr. Cook expresses astonishment at Edward Barrill, who was with Dr. Cook on Mt. McKinley, but now says under oath that neither of them ever reached the summit. Dr. Cook says if any expedition will follow the route he took, they will find the records deposited by him at the summit of the mountain.

Miss Carrie Hunter, of Wadesboro, having lost her health, took an insane impulse to commit suicide and plunged into a well on Wednesday night, accomplishing her design.

The mayor of Key West calls for American citizens to help the destitute of that storm stricken city.

Prof. Francisco Ferrer, the Spanish educator and convicted revolutionist, was shot Wednesday at Barcelona, Spain. The execution was done at the fortress of Montjuich, where the prisoner had been confined since his condemnation my court martial. The doomed man faced the firing squad without flinching and fell dead at the first volley.

A bank robber in Chicago was about to be captured Wednesday when he was deliberately shot himself dead. He had only gotten \$500.

## WASHINGTON NOTES

A substantial increase is shown in the gross income of the Southern Railway Company during the year ending June 30 last, according to the fifteenth annual report of President W. W. Finley. The report says the return of business from the low level of panic conditions of 1907 was slow but substantial during the past year. The total gross income for the year was \$17,737,699, an increase over 1908 of \$3,890,723. While the operating expenses show a decrease of \$753,610, compared with the year 1908, it is stated that this is due to the fact that the Tennessee Central Railroad and the Southern Railway of Mississippi were operated separately this year. However, comparing like for like, this year shows an increase in the operating revenues of \$806,766.

At a meeting of the Southern Commercial congress Tuesday, plans for building to be erected in this city were accepted. The structure will be built from contributions made by the various commercial organizations throughout the South, and John M. Parker, President of the congress, will leave soon on a speaking tour in that section. He goes first to Greenville, S. C., then to Atlanta, Ga., and Birmingham, Ala. The complete itinerary has not been completed yet. The work of organizing and canvassing the 16 states which will be called upon to contribute to the congress will, it is figured, occupy more than a year.

Record target practice scores of the vessels of the American navy for 1909 made public at the Navy Department Thursday, show that the Washington is a trophy winner in the battleship class, the Charleston a trophy winner in the gunboat class, the Tingey the trophy winner in vessels competing for the torpedo trophy. The Pacific fleet, under Admiral Swinburne, leads the fleet in target practice with a record of 42.

A trip to various coast points on the Atlantic ocean to participate in local celebrations has been arranged for the torpedo boats Stringham, Dupont, Biddle and Shubrick of the Atlantic torpedo flotilla. From Charleston, S. C., they are to go to Savannah, from November 1 to 7, to take part in a carnival. The next day they go to Wilmington, N. C., to be there during the President's visit. Later in the month, from November 22 to 27, the boats are to be at Jacksonville, where a carnival is to be held. After these boats get back to Charleston, they will be placed in reserve. The other boats of the Atlantic flotilla, eight in all, are to be placed in reserve at Charleston upon their arrival there, which is expected to be early in November.

The Supreme Court Tuesday fixed December 13 for hearing arguments in the case of the government against the American Tobacco Company. The cases were instituted by the government to obtain the dissolution of the alleged trust. Their hearing was originally fixed for Tuesday, but the postponement was made to allow Attorney-General Wickersham to participate in the arguments.

Orders were issued at the Navy Department Monday for a division of the Atlantic torpedo flotilla to be present at Yorktown to participate in the celebration in commemoration of the anniversary of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. The vessels, which have been cruising up the Hudson river as far as Albany and Troy in connection with the recent Hudson-Fulton celebration, will sail from New York within the next two or three days for Hampton Roads and thence to Yorktown.

After a recess of more than four months, and with only Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Harlan, Brewer, White, Holmes, McKenna and Day present, the Supreme Court of the United States Monday began the regular term for the next twelve months. Justices Peckham and Moody were absent on account of illness, reducing the court to unusually small proportions.

The question whether the ordinary insurance policy insures a man against death by legal hanging is raised in the case of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, vs. J. William McCue and others, which was presented Monday to the Supreme Court of the United States. McCue is one of the children of the late J. Samuel McCue, who while serving a term as mayor of the city of Charlottesville, Va., was found guilty of murdering his wife and hanged for the offense in 1905. About a year previous to the crime McCue took out an insurance policy of \$15,000 in the Mutual Life.

The commissions of several additional supervisors of the next census have been signed by President Taft and forwarded by Director of the Census Durand to the appointees. Among them are Livingston, F. McClellan, Stone Mountain, for the fifth district, and Harry Burns, Macon, for the sixth district of Georgia; James L. Michie, Darlington, for the sixth district and Ernest M. Dapre, Columbia, for the seventh district, South Carolina.

## ANOTHER SOUTHERN STORM.

Death List 37, With Possibilities of Increase—Sweeps Southeast Through Tennessee, Alabama and South Carolina.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—With the known death list already reaching a total of thirty-seven human lives and with thirteen others reported dead, with scores seriously injured and many others painfully bruised, and with the property damage running to a million or more dollars, the toll of the havoc and destruction of the storm which swept middle and West Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, and portions of Arkansas, and South Carolina, late Thursday afternoon and Thursday night, grows hourly as reports are received from remote districts and as wire communication is gradually restored to a normal condition.

The storm was the worst that has visited this section of the South in years, being intense in its destroying fury and widespread in its area. Whole sections of counties were laid in waste, towns destroyed and plantations greatly damaged.

The list of dead reported is: Denmark, Tenn., Albert Barnes; Mulberry, Tenn., Thomas Helm; Stantonville, Tenn., Thirteen people reported killed (unconfirmed): Pittsburg Landing, Tenn., Mrs. West McDaniel, Otis Littlefield, Luther Littlefield, Marshall Jordan, Ruby Jordan, I. W. Lemons; Near Stantonville, Tenn., Charles, wife and infant, Terry Wilbank, Mrs. Wilbank and their two children, Mrs. Sissom; Near Cartersville, Ga., Miss Pritchard; Scottsboro, Ala., Miss Houston Skelton, Milas M. Suder, a child of Jim Cal; Wyeth Cove, Ala., Eight people killed; Near Scottsboro, Ala., Mrs. S. H. Skelton; Stanton, Tenn., Andy Johnson, a negro; Nixon, Tenn., five people killed; Near Marmaduke, Ark., Arthur Liggett.

Apparently the storm broke in all its fury over middle and West Tennessee and proceeded in a southeasterly direction across the State into Alabama and Georgia, assuming the proportions of a hurricane.

It came practically without warning and in some places the wind attained a velocity of 90 miles an hour.

While only one death occurred at Denmark, Tenn., the horrors of the storm were greatly heightened by the fire which followed the wrecking of that town. The fierce flames rapidly consumed what few dwellings and store houses were left standing and at night a scene of utter desolation is presented. Two hundred people were rendered homeless and have appealed to neighboring towns and cities for immediate aid.

Reports of five deaths and heavy damage come from McNairy county. Homes and stores were leveled to the ground and great trees uprooted.

Many handsome and imposing State monuments in the Shiloh national park were torn from their pedestals and the superintendent's lodge and other buildings were destroyed. The property damage in this section is estimated at \$100,000.

Wire communication with Stantonville, where thirteen lives are reported to have been lost, has not yet been re-established.

At Russellville, Ala., twenty-seven people were seriously, several fatally injured.

A property damage of at least \$10,000 is estimated at Cartersville, Ga., while that at Atlanta will run between \$80,000 and \$100,000. One life was lost at the former place.

Rome, Ga., Gadsden, Ala., Huntsville, Ala., Decatur, Ala., and other smaller towns in the path of the storm report heavy property damages.

At Gadsden, Alabama, hail the size of hen's eggs did much damage, losses about \$25,000.

At Atlanta one woman was probably fatally hurt and two children were also injured.

At Cartersville, Ga., one woman is dead, another reported beneath the wreck of her home, and \$50,000 damage to property.

At Aiken, S. C., report say the path of the storm was several miles wide and probably 50 miles long. Great damage was done to the cotton crop.

## PRESIDENT TAFT ACCEPTS CRANE'S RESIGNATION

Washington, Special.—All doubts as to what action the President would take with respect to the resignation of Charles R. Crane, minister designate to China, was dispelled by the receipt of a dispatch from President Taft addressed to his secretary, Mr. Carpenter directing him to convey to Mr. Crane announcement of the fact that the resignation had been accepted.

The telegram was dated Prescott, Ariz., October 13, and reads as follows:

"Convey to Mr. Crane following communication: 'I concur in the letter under date of October 12, which the Secretary of State has addressed to you and I greatly regret that the circumstances found to exist by him make it necessary for me to accept your resignation.' "TAFT."

Later Mr. Crane issued this statement: "I am greatly relieved by the President's decision. There has been no minute since I learned the attitude of the Department of State when I have

## KILLS FATHER-IN-LAW AND BURNS SELF AND HOUSE

Lincolnton, N. C., Special.—About 3 o'clock Thursday morning, near Bethpage church, 6 miles west of Lincolnton, Mr. W. S. Wise killed his father-in-law, Joe Hallman, with an axe, then ran in his own home, barred the door, undressed himself, fired his home and was incinerated. Mr. Hallman's head was entirely severed

by axe. Wise appeared rational up to a few moments before he enacted the shocking tragedy. He awakened at an early hour and his strange remarks caused his wife to become alarmed, so she sent one of her children to her father's home, a half-mile away, and asked for some of her people to come to her aid.

## FATHER IS KILLED TRYING TO KILL HIS OWN SON

Gastonia, N. C., Special.—Col. Robert L. Abernethy, owner of Open View farm in River Bend township, Gaston county, eccentric stockman, farmer and politician, was shot and almost instantly killed at his home near Mount Holly at 7 o'clock Thursday morning after having fired three wild shots at his son, Reuben, aged 18, and in the course of a fierce hand-to-hand struggle with the latter who was endeavoring to disarm him. One bullet entered the right temple and the other struck him full in the forehead. He never regained consciousness and died an hour later.

At the inquest held Thursday afternoon by jury empaneled by Magistrate W. B. Rutledge of Mount Holly a verdict was rendered at 5 o'clock to the effect that Abernethy came to his death from wounds inflicted by a pistol in his own hands. His son, who was placed under arrest soon after the tragedy by Deputy Sheriff J. S. Rogers pending an investigation, was released from custody and the matter is doubtless at an end so far as any legal proceedings are concerned.

## PRESIDENT DIAZ SPEEDS WAY TO MEET PRESIDENT TAFT

El Paso, Tex., Special.—Gen. Porfirio Diaz, President of the Republic of Mexico, reached Ciudad Juarez, opposite El Paso, at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon and was greeted by salutes from the Mexican artillery and cheers of the populace.

After receiving committees from El Paso and the city of Juarez, General Diaz laid the cornerstone for the Juarez monument, in memory of his predecessor, Benito Juarez. Friday night he spent aboard his train, packed inside the walls of the Juarez custom house heavily guarded by soldiers.

Chief John Wilkie of the United States secret service declared that he anticipated no danger to the two Presidents Saturday. Were it otherwise, he said, the meeting would not take place.